THE TRAVANCORE REGISTRATION ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI I beg to introduce the Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill and I move that the Bill be read in the Assembly.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR : I second it

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI : The Bill is intended to make an amendment in Section 12 of the Registration Act. A Registering Officer is under the Act bound to refuse to register a document unless the document is written in Malayalam or Tamil. This amendment makes it possible for the Registering Officer to accept a document for registration if it is written in English or in any other language which he can understand. There is already a provision in Section 64 (1) (*b*) of the Registration Act enabling rules to be made declaring the languages in which any document presented for registration may be written; the present amendment which is worded: for the words "the Registering Officer shall," the words "or be in a language which the Registering Officer does not understand he shall," is intended to remove the prohibition in the Act. The language is not specified as English. If the document is written in a language which the Registering Officer understands, he can admit the document for registration. As I have already stated there is a provision in Section 64 of the Registration Act which enables rules to be made restricting the languages in which the document could be written. So if we want a document to be written in English or in any other language and want it to be registered we have only to make suitable provisions in the rule under Section 64 (1) (*b*). That is why it was worded like that. I thought it was unnecessary to specify the language as English. If the document is written in English which all Registering Officers understand, and the rule declares English as an acceptable language it can be accepted. The Registering Officers may be enjoined by the rule to accept only documents written in English, Malayalam, or Tamil. There is ample power for the rule making authority to determine the languages in which the document should be written. I therefore commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House.

SECRETARY: The short title of the Bill shall be "The Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill."

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I pray that Standing Order 34 be suspended and that the Bill be taken into consideration.

Standing Order 34 was suspended, and the Bill was taken up for consideration.

The question that Clauses 1 and 2 stand part of the Bill was put and carried.

Clauses 1 and 2 were added to the Bill.

The question that the preamble and title stand part of the Bill was put and carried. The preamble and title were added to the Bill.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that the Bill be passed.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I second it.

The motion was put and carried, and the Bill was passed.

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